

1 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

2 DISTRICT OF NEVADA

3 RICHARD ALAN LACY,

Case No. 2:18-cv-00966-GMN-GWF

4 Plaintiff

ORDER

5 v.

6 JAMES DZURENDA et al.,

7 Defendants

8

9 This action began with a *pro se* civil rights complaint filed pursuant to 42 U.S.C. §
10 1983 by a former state prisoner. On June 26, 2019, the Court issued an order dismissing
11 the complaint with leave to amend and directed Plaintiff to file an amended complaint
12 within 30 days. (ECF No. 4 at 4-5). The 30-day period has now expired, and Plaintiff has
13 not filed an amended complaint or otherwise responded to the Court's order.

14 District courts have the inherent power to control their dockets and “[i]n the
15 exercise of that power, they may impose sanctions including, where appropriate . . .
16 dismissal” of a case. *Thompson v. Hous. Auth. of City of Los Angeles*, 782 F.2d 829, 831
17 (9th Cir. 1986). A court may dismiss an action, with prejudice, based on a party’s failure
18 to prosecute an action, failure to obey a court order, or failure to comply with local rules.
19 See *Ghazali v. Moran*, 46 F.3d 52, 53-54 (9th Cir. 1995) (affirming dismissal for
20 noncompliance with local rule); *Ferdik v. Bonzelet*, 963 F.2d 1258, 1260-61 (9th Cir.
21 1992) (affirming dismissal for failure to comply with an order requiring amendment of
22 complaint); *Carey v. King*, 856 F.2d 1439, 1440-41 (9th Cir. 1988) (affirming dismissal
23 for failure to comply with local rule requiring *pro se* plaintiffs to keep court apprised of
24 address); *Malone v. U.S. Postal Service*, 833 F.2d 128, 130 (9th Cir. 1987) (affirming
25 dismissal for failure to comply with court order); *Henderson v. Duncan*, 779 F.2d 1421,
26 1424 (9th Cir. 1986) (affirming dismissal for lack of prosecution and failure to comply with
27 local rules).

28 In determining whether to dismiss an action for lack of prosecution, failure to obey

1 a court order, or failure to comply with local rules, the court must consider several factors:
2 (1) the public's interest in expeditious resolution of litigation; (2) the court's need to
3 manage its docket; (3) the risk of prejudice to the defendants; (4) the public policy favoring
4 disposition of cases on their merits; and (5) the availability of less drastic alternatives.
5 See *Thompson*, 782 F.2d at 831; *Henderson*, 779 F.2d at 1423-24; *Malone*, 833 F.2d at
6 130; *Ferdik*, 963 F.2d at 1260-61; *Ghazali*, 46 F.3d at 53.

7 Here, the Court finds that the first two factors, the public's interest in expeditiously
8 resolving this litigation and the Court's interest in managing the docket, weigh in favor of
9 dismissal. The third factor, risk of prejudice to Defendants, also weighs in favor of
10 dismissal, since a presumption of injury arises from the occurrence of unreasonable delay
11 in filing a pleading ordered by the court or prosecuting an action. See *Anderson v. Air*
12 *West*, 542 F.2d 522, 524 (9th Cir. 1976). The fourth factor—public policy favoring
13 disposition of cases on their merits—is greatly outweighed by the factors in favor of
14 dismissal discussed herein. Finally, a court's warning to a party that his failure to obey
15 the court's order will result in dismissal satisfies the "consideration of alternatives"
16 requirement. *Ferdik*, 963 F.2d at 1262; *Malone*, 833 F.2d at 132-33; *Henderson*, 779
17 F.2d at 1424. The Court's order requiring Plaintiff to file an amended complaint within 30
18 days expressly stated: "It is further ordered that, if Plaintiff chooses not to file an amended
19 complaint curing the stated deficiencies of the complaint, the Court will dismiss this action
20 with prejudice." (ECF No. 4 at 5). Thus, Plaintiff had adequate warning that dismissal
21 would result from his noncompliance with the Court's order to file an amended complaint
22 within 30 days.

23 It is therefore ordered that this action is dismissed with prejudice based on
24 Plaintiff's failure to file an amended complaint in compliance with this Court's June 25,
25 2019, order.

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1 It is further ordered that the Clerk of Court shall close the case and enter judgment
2 accordingly.

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4 DATED THIS 31 day of July 2019.

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Gloria M. Navarro, Chief Judge
United States District Court